

Town of Shandaken Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Minutes of Meeting



Purpose of Meeting:	Steering Committee Organizational Meeting Agenda Item
Location of Meeting:	Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP) Offices 3130 State Route 28, Shokan, NY
Date/Time of Meeting:	November 13, 2018; 10 a.m. – Noon

Attendees:	Committee Member	Organization	Representing
	Candace Balmer	Water Resource Specialist	stakeholder
	Aaron Bennett	Environmental Planner	stakeholder
	Cynthia Bianco	consultant	consultant
	Phil Eskeli	Flood Hazard Mitigation Coordinator	stakeholder
	Brent Gotsch	Watershed Educator	stakeholder
	Eric Hofmeister	Town Highway Superintendent	government
	Mark Loete	Town of Shandaken/ZBA Member	government
	Justine McNeilly*	Catskill Watershed Corporation	stakeholder
	Robert Stanley	Town of Shandaken/Town Supervisor	government

*Alternate committee member.

Agenda Summary: Review project status; finalize discussion of goals and objectives update; review of citizen survey responses; presentation of draft vulnerability assessment; discuss additional stakeholder outreach.

Item No.	Description	Action By:
1.	Project Status Update: The project is proceeding on schedule. Citizen survey results have been summarized and comprise of 129 responses. Tetra Tech performed the vulnerability assessment and will be presenting the results in this meeting. The vulnerability assessment is based on 2017 regulatory flood maps, tax assessor data and additional available structural footprint data. The Committee approved the minutes of the October meeting.	-
2.	Review of Citizen Survey Responses: Tetra Tech presented the summary survey responses and a discussion ensued to review the relevance of the feedback to the mitigation planning process. The committee reviewed the feedback including response rates for those living in and out of the floodplain, length of residency, flood hazards of concern, flood preparedness, effective communication strategies, real estate hazard disclosure, flood insurance coverage issues, flood vulnerable areas, and desired projects to reduce flood vulnerability. It was noted that CWC provides mitigation funding for acquisitions and elevations, but it is not advertised widely to the public. The committee requested certain formatting adjustments before the results are posted for public information on the Town website and on Facebook.	Tt to apply format changes; Town to post summary survey results on the Town website and Town Facebook page.

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6.	<p>Review Plan Goals and Objectives: The Committee reviewed the updated 2018 plan mission statement, goals, and objectives and agreed upon the edits suggested by the core planning team. The final five goals and associated objectives are listed below:</p> <p>Goal 1. Protect Life and Property to Increase Resiliency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 1-1:</i> Protect the ongoing operation of critical facilities and infrastructure to increase resiliency. • <i>Objective 1-2:</i> Retrofit, purchase or relocate repetitive and severe repetitive loss assets in the Town. • <i>Objective 1-3:</i> Encourage the establishment of policies, such as using a climate-informed science approach, to help ensure the prioritization and implementation of mitigation actions and/or projects designed to increase resiliency of critical facilities, services, and infrastructure. • <i>Objective 1-4:</i> Implement mitigation actions that enhance the capabilities of the Town to better profile and assess exposure of floods. • <i>Objective 1-5:</i> Better characterize flood/stormwater hazard events by conducting additional hazard studies and identify inadequate stormwater facilities and poorly drained areas and maintain or improve drainage or flood control systems. • <i>Objective 1-6:</i> Develop, maintain, strengthen and promote enforcement of ordinances, regulations, plans and other mechanisms that facilitate flood mitigation and result in a higher level of natural flood risk reduction. • <i>Objective 1-7:</i> Ensure that development is done according to modern and appropriate standards, including the consideration of flood hazard risk. • <i>Objective 1-8:</i> Identify and pursue funding opportunities to develop and implement local flood mitigation activities. • <i>Objective 1-9:</i> Address the specific needs of vulnerable populations • <i>Objective 1-10:</i> Consider future projected hydraulic and hydrologic conditions, such as those recommended by New York State when developing policies, planning, and implementing mitigation actions. <p>Goal 2. Increase Public Awareness and Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 2-1:</i> Develop and implement program(s) to better understand the public's level of individual and household preparedness. • <i>Objective 2-2:</i> Develop and implement additional education and outreach programs to increase public awareness of hazard areas and the risks associated with flooding, and to educate the public on specific, individual preparedness activities. • <i>Objective 2-3:</i> Promote awareness among homeowners, renters, and businesses about 	No action.
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	<p>obtaining insurance coverage available for flooding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 2-4:</i> Develop and implement programs to inform vulnerable property owners of appropriate mitigation activities and available funding programs. • <i>Objective 2-5:</i> Provide the public information on tools, partnership opportunities, funding resources, and current government initiatives to assist in implementing mitigation activities. • <i>Objective 2-6:</i> Increase public awareness about potential, but projected, future extreme event conditions and the possible impacts that may have on the community. <p>• Goal 3. Enhance Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 3-1:</i> Encourage the establishment of policies to help ensure the prioritization and implementation of mitigation actions and/or projects designed to benefit critical facilities, services, and infrastructure. • <i>Objective 3-2:</i> Coordinate and integrate hazard mitigation actions with existing local emergency operations plans. • <i>Objective 3-3:</i> Identify the need for, and acquire, any special emergency services, training, equipment, facilities and infrastructure to enhance response capabilities for flooding. • <i>Objective 3-4:</i> Review and improve, if necessary, emergency traffic routes; communicate such routes to the public and communities. • <i>Objective 3-5:</i> Ensure continuity of governmental operations, emergency services, and critical facilities at the local level during and immediately after flood events. • <i>Objective 3-6:</i> Maintain and expand shared services in acquiring, maintaining and providing emergency services and equipment. • <i>Objective 3-7:</i> Integrate New York State’s predicted future conditions when designing disaster preparedness, response and recovery plans. <p>• Goal 4. Protect the Environment and Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 4-1:</i> Protect and restore natural lands and features that serve to mitigate losses (including wetlands, floodplains, stream corridors, hillsides and ridge lines). Such lands should be clearly mapped and identified for protection. • <i>Objective 4-2:</i> Continue to preserve, protect and acquire open space, particularly in high hazard areas. Include flood hazard considerations in the prioritization strategy for land acquisition. • <i>Objective 4-3:</i> Incorporate hazard considerations in land-use planning and natural resource management and encourage flood hazard mitigation measures that result in the least adverse effect on the natural environment. • <i>Objective 4-4:</i> Consider using climate-informed science when determining potentially 	
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	<p style="text-align: center;">hazardous locations as well as areas that may be in need of additional protection.</p> <p>Goal 5. Promote Mitigation Efforts through Existing Programs and Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 5-1:</i> Maintain and expand shared services in acquiring, maintaining and providing emergency services and equipment. • <i>Objective 5-2:</i> Strengthen inter-jurisdiction and interagency communication, coordination, and partnerships to foster flood hazard mitigation actions or projects. • <i>Objective 5-3:</i> Maintain awareness of available funding and partnership opportunities • <i>Objective 5-4:</i> Serve as a model for other communities. 	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Review Vulnerability Assessment Status: Tetra Tech presented the draft vulnerability assessment results which indicated an increase in population exposure and decrease in building exposure in the regulatory floodplain. This is due in part to the 2016 FIRM update which provides more accurate floodplain delineation. This does not represent to changes in development regulations. During the discussion on vulnerable areas, Ulster County Department of the Environment agreed to provide map layers of flood vulnerable road sections to Tetra Tech for analysis and inclusion in the plan. Other information/topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Town has been harvesting ash trees near road right of way to reduce the hazard of downed trees. -Cornell Cooperative Extension and Ulster County Department of the Environment have been holding training sessions (twice annually over last two years) to educate realtors in floodplain issues and flood hazard disclosure requirements. Since the inception of training there has been a noticeable uptick in flood queries from prospective home buyers. Tt recommended that the Town implement a documentation system to capture this correspondence and the information provided to prepare for CRS reporting. -Tt and Aaron Bennett will review the NFIP data to determine if it is correct and if it recognizes the recent flood mitigation acquisitions. 	<p>Tt and UCDOE to review NFIP Information, UCDOE to provide town road vulnerability map.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Discuss Additional Stakeholder Outreach: The committee discussed outreach to additional stakeholders to garner additional relevant information and input. Stakeholders to be contacted via email to provide data or review the draft plan include: Ulster County Office of Emergency Management; NYS DHSES; Cornell Climate Center, American Red Cross, State Climatologist, Climate Smart program,</p>	<p>Tt/Town to transmit request for stakeholder input emails.</p>

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	FEMA, USGS, ORDA, Ulster County Board of Realtors, Insurance Association, Towns of Olive, Hardenburgh, Woodstock, Middletown, Hunter, Lexington; Fire Departments (Phoenicia, Big Indian-Oliverea, Pine Hill; NYS MESONET (New York State's Mesoscale Weather Network).	
9.	Next Steps: Update Mitigation Strategy. Review Draft Sections of Plan. Additional Stakeholder Outreach.	
10.	Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The next S.A.F.A.R.I. meeting will be at 10 am on December 11, 2018 at AWSMP offices.	